

and CHATTER

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Around the Cracker Barrel

It was necessary to print nine-thousand copies of each of these four issues of COINS & CHATTER in order to meet the requirements of our regular mailing list, requests, and new A.N.A. members. The disconcerting thing about this is that well over 3,000 of these have neither paid their subscription nor made a \$10.00 purchase which would entitle them to a free subscription.

There is no profit in a \$1.00 subscription as the cost of printing, mailing, etc., is slightly more than that a year per customer. Quite a few collectors want to receive our publication but for some reason or another are not particularly interested in making purchases. This is understandable and we are perfectly willing to continue them on our mailing list; however, it seems only fair that they should at least pay the printing and postage cost which the dollar barely covers.

That's why!

During August we are going to bring our subscription and stencil files up to date. Unless these indicate a purchase during the past eighteen months, or a paid subscription, they will be removed from our mailing list.

For the convenience of those who wish to continue receiving COINS & CHATTER, we are enclosing a subscription blank as well as a postpaid envelope. And all subscriptions will be entered for the balance of this year and ALL of 1960. Remember--any order of \$10.00 or more entitles you to a year's free subscription.

A Choice Selection of U.S. HALF DOLLARS

1806 Pt. 6. Stem through claw, choice Br. Unc.......\$95.00
1815 Rare date, Fine-V.Fine.. 75.00
1819 over 18, small 9. Well struck, Br. Unc.......... 25.00
1827 Sq. base, choice Br.Unc.. 15.00
1838 HALF DOL. on reverse. A distinct type, only struck in 1838-39. Choice Br. Unc.......... 35.00

1839 NEW ORLEANS MINT

(The only date obtainable with the mint mark on obverse)
1839 0, Unc.(Cat.275.00)...190.00
1839 0, Choice Ext. Fine...100.00
1839 0, V.F.(Cat.90.00 F.). 75.00
1839 0, Fine-V. Fine..... 60.00
1839 0, V.Gd.(Cat.40.00 Gd).20.00

1861 Choice Br. Unc	12.50
1867 Choice Br. Unc	17.50
1879 Br. Proof	45.00
	42.50
1912 S Mint, Br. Unc	42.50
1915 S Mint, Br. Unc	50.00
1917 Abt. Unc. 6.00; Br. Unc	10.00
1917 D on reverse, Br.Unc	82.50
Same, Ext. Fine to Abt. Unc	35.00
1917 D on obverse, Abt.Unc	22.50
1918 Well struck, Br. Unc	67.50
1918 D Mint, Br. Unc. but Liber	ty
	57.50

EXXXXXXXXXX

CONTINENTAL DOLLAR

1776 Continental Dollar, E.G. FECIT variety. Struck in pewter as usual. This was the first dollar struck for the United States.

Very Fine, rare\$150.00



The Dekadrachm of Syracuse

SYRACUSE, SICILY 405-367 B. C. Dekadrachm, Euainetos type. Head of Persephone, four dolphins in field/Driver racing quadriga, Winged Victory overhead. Struck to commemorate victory over Athens. Generally considered one of the finest examples of classic ancient art in numismatics. Struck at the height of the Greek Fine Arts period. Extremely rare.

Very Fine condition....\$825.00



ANCIENT JUDAEA





JEWISH SHEKEL

Year 3, struck during the Revoltunder Simon Maccabaeus, 141-137 B. C. Chalice and insc. "Shekel Israel"/ Branch with 3 buds, insc. "Jerusalem the Holy."

Ext. Fine..... \$295.00

LEGAL TENDER 1 Dollar Notes 1862 Fr-16. First regularly issued U.S. Note, choice Unc. \$37.50 1874 Fr-19, rare, crisp Unc. 125.00 1875 Fr-26, crisp Unc. 27.50 1878 Fr-27, crisp Unc. 27.50 1917 Fr-36, crisp Unc. 6.00 1917 Fr-37, crisp Unc. 6.00 1917 Fr-39, crisp Unc. 6.00 1923 Fr-40, crisp Unc, rare. 22.50 2 Dollar Notes 1869 Fr-42, Unc, very rare. 125.00 1874 Fr-43, crisp Unc, beautiful color. Extremely rare. 235.00 1878 Fr-48, crisp Unc, rare. 75.00 1917 Fr-60, crisp Unc. 12.50 1917 Same, Abt. Unc. 9.00 5 Dollar Notes 1863 Fr-63, crisp Unc, well centered, fine color. A choice Note. 90.00 1869 Fr-64, crisp Unc, full color, only issue of this type, SPECIAL 45.00 1878 Fr-69, crisp Unc. A gem Note, excessively rare. 175.00 1907 Fr-85, crisp Unc, SPECIAL 15.00 1907 Fr-88, Ext. Fine. 12.50 1907 Fr-91, Crisp Unc, SPECIAL 15.00 1907 Fr-99, crisp Unc, SPECIAL 15.00 1907 Fr-99, crisp Unc, A splendid example of this rare Note. 125.00 1901 Fr-114, V.Fine plus. 20.00 1901 Fr-114, V.Fine plus. 20.00 1901 Fr-1122, Ext.Fine. 25.00	1899 Same, star Note, crisp Unc. 10.00 1899 Same, Very Fine
1901 Fr-114, V.Fine plus 20.00	1891 Fr-350, crisp Unc, rare 37.50
1878 Fr-129, crisp Unc. A beautiful specimen of this rarity 235.00 1880 Fr-147, Abt.Unc.crisp,edge slightly frayed 47.50 1880 Same, V.Good plus 27.50	FEDERAL RESERVE BANK NOTES
50 Dollar Note 1878 Fr-154, crisp Uncirculated. A beautiful, and one of the finest known specimens of this excessively rare Note. A REAL PRIZE\$500.00	1 DOLLAR NOTES - 1918 Fr-708, Boston, Unc
SILVER CERTIFICATES 1 Dollar Notes	Fr-836, Richmond, red seal, Un.35.00 Fr-851, New York, Unc 12.50

1899 Fr-226, crisp Unc. scarce. 15.00

1899 Same, Ext Fine 10 00

1899 Fr-230, crisp Unc 7.50

1899 Same, Ext. Fine..... 4.50

1899 Fr-233, crisp Unc, SPECIAL 6.00

UNITED STATES LARGE CURRENCY

"UNKNOWN EMPEROR" OF BRITAIN

Not one Briton in ten thousand knows the name of the first British emperormuch less his importance in regard to coinage!

During a recent coin-hunting trip in the fascinating historic city of Chester, England--which in 70 A.D. was the great Fortress of Deva, headquarters of the Roman Army's Western Command and the last outpost of Rome on the rim of the western provinces--I broached this subject:

In Chester's covered market-place--"Did you know that the first British
Emperor was named Carausius?" I
asked. The red-faced little market
salesman shook his head. "Never 'eard
of 'im, guv'nor!"

To a young man outside the Grosvenor Museum, small but replete with interesting Roman antiquities---"Are you aware that the first official Roman mints in Britain were opened by the Emperor Carausius, first emperor of your land?" I queried. "I say, you know, you really must be spoofing me!" chortled the young fellow. "The British Empire wasn't founded until Henry the Eighth--or was it Elizabeth?"

I turned away in the fog and sadly accosted a tall policemen: "Have you any knowledge of Carausius?" The bobby pursed his lips. "He's not running in the two-thirty, but my tip is Hot Shot in the four o'clock at evens."

Despite this abysmal ignorance, the fact remains that apart from the native currency issued by individual British tribal chiefs, and unofficial mints making imitations of Roman coins from the days of Claudius, the first official mints producing coinage for the entire territory of Britain, including Scotland, were established about 284-5 A.D. at London and Colchester by a rebel admiral of the Roman Empire's British Channel Fleet, and the result was a long and interesting series of coins.

"UNKNOWN EMPEROR" (Continued)

Maximianus, joint-ruler with Diocletian, appointed Carausius an "admiral" in the Classis Britannica, and stationed him at Boulogne. He little knew his man! Rome's problem at the time was how to cope with the raids of Saxon and Frankish pirates who constantly ravaged the coastal cities of Gaul and Britain. Carausius, under orders to "clean them out," permitted the raids to continue but waited off-shore and hi-jacked the pirates as they put to sea with their booty--keeping most of the booty for himself!

When news of such practice reached Maximianus, he ordered the immediate arrest of the venal admiral. Carausius turned his fleet of ships towards Britain, landed, persuaded both Roman legions and British tribal chiefs to join him in a revolt against Rome, established his base camp in Northwest Britain, and sent his dispatch riders pounding north to win over the Picts and

Carausius and his men then marched south, smashed the legionaries based at York and were soon at London.

The daring rebel wasted no time in coining his own money and his official mints at London, Colchester, and later at Rouen when North Gaul fell under his sway, produced gold, silver and copper coins in varied styles.

The radiate and laureate heads of the first "Emperor of Britain," as he titled himself, show him as a thick-set bull-headed man with a low brow, short title of co-emperor with Maximianus. thick nose, grizzled moustache and short beard. According to accounts, he had a seaman's genial way with him, being a man of the people and fraternizing with all. The coin heads bear out this impression.

Carausius did not hesitate to describe himself as "Augustus." The inscription IMP C CARAUSIUS AUG appears on scores of coin types.

The coins minted at London bear the mint marks "L" or "ML" or "MLX" or "MLXXI." Coins minted at Colchester carry the mint mark "C", sometimes with M, S, or XX added. The mystery mint mark of the Carausius coins is "RSR" --- these letters appear in the exergue of many types of silver Denarii. What mint issued these command (Allectus), who wasted no coins? Was there a mint at Richborough time in taking over the mints and (Rutupiae) which, for two centuries before Carausius, was a great Roman settlement? Was there a mint of which historians and numismatists as yet have no knowledge?



Collection

ANCIENT ROMAN SILVER COINS DENARII AND ANTONINIANI

'Twelve(12) different rulers each showing bust of emperor. Includes Hadrian, Trajan and other histori cal personalities. Coins individually enveloped and classified as to ruler, date and deity on reverse. Condition Very Fine. Individually would cost \$1.50 to \$3.00 each. We have only twenty-five of these collections available.

SPECIALLY PRICED....\$14.75

"UNKNOWN EMPEROR" (Continued)

Much detective work remains to be done in regards to Carausius coins, as well as the whole field of Romano-British coins, and new hoards, as they are discovered during excavations, may solve this and other mysteries.

Maximianus endured Carausius' rebellion for four years, but in 288-9AD prepared an invasion fleet which sailed to Britain and was soundly defeated. After this the Peace of 289 A.D. was signed and the usurper was now permitted to give himself rightfully the

How Carausius loved coins --especially those with his face on the obverse! He immediately issued coins with the termination "AUGGG", the triple "G" showing that he now ranked as an equal with Maximianus and Diocletian! As might be expected of a born sailor, nautical designs appear on some of his coins including rudders, anchors, the god Neptune, dolphins, galleys with rowers, oars, masts, etc.

Carausius reigned and minted his money for seven brisk, busy and adventurous years in Britain, and in 293 A.D. was murdered by treachery. As with most of the Roman adventureremperors, the chief conniver against his life was his trusted second-instamping his own bearded image in bronze and gold (no silver coins of Allectus are known) for all men to admire!

-- Harry Leigh-Pink

Foreign Gold

foreign Yold
ALBANIA, Zog 1 as king, 20 Franka
1937. CW-26, Unc\$20.00
ARGENTINA, 5 Pesos 1888. Unc. 20.00
AUSTRIA, Fr. Joseph, 20 Francs
1892. Unc11.50
4 Ducats 1915. Proof25.00
Ducat 1915, Proof 8.75
25 Schillings 1931, Unc 9.00
100 Schillings 1934, Proof 35.00
BAHAWALPUR, Sadiq Mohammed V,
Ashrafi(mohur) 1925. Bust of
Emperor. Abt. Unc 95.00
BELGIUM, Leopold I, 20 Francs 1865. Very Fine
Albert, 20 Francs 1914, CW-11.
Uncirculated
CANADA, Sovereign 1911, Unc 18.75
BRITISH COLUMBIA, Souvenir Coinage
1849. Gold \$2-\$1-\$1/4, 3 pcs 25.00
DENMARK, Fred. VIII, 20 Kroner
Uncirculated
Christian X, 20 Kroner 1915. Uncirculated 17.50
ECUADOR, 1 Condor 1928. CW-1
Rare, Uncirculated37.50
EGYPT, 1 Pound 1955. Comm.
Nasser Rebellion. Proof27.50
FINLAND, 20 Markkaa 1912, Unc. 20.00
FRANCE, Napoleon as Emperor,
20 Francs 1806. Bare head, V.F.17.50
20 Francs 1808, laureated head. V. Fine 15.00
Napoleon III, 20 Francs 1866.
Laureated head. Ext. Fine15.00
20 Francs 1910, Unc12.50
100 Francs 1935, Bazor type,
Uncirculated
GREAT BRITAIN, Edward VII, 1/2
Sovereign 1902. Mat Proof 12.50
Elizabeth II, Sovereign 1958. Uncirculated13.75
IRAN, 1 Pahlevi(pound) 1950-51. Shah's head/Lion. Unc18.00
ITALY, Victor Emanuel II, 20 Lire
1867. Ext. Fine12.50
Humbert 1, 20 Lire 1885.
Abt. Uncirculated12.50
Victor Emanuel III, 20 Lire
1905. CW-2 (Cat.35.00) Unc 18.50
NORWAY, Haakon VII, 20 Kroner 1910. CW-11. Uncirculated42.50
PORTUGAL, Louis I, 5,000 Reis
1883. V. Fine 27.50
ROMANIA, 50 Lei 1906, CW-4. Very Fine32.50
RUSSIA, 5 Roubles 1855. X.F 20.00
SAUDI ARABIA, Guinea 1951,
CW-15. Uncirculated 15.00
SWITZER LAND, 20 Francs 1935.
Uncirculated

BIBLICAL COINS





SHEKEL OF TYRE

TYRE, Phoenicia, About 100 B. C. Shekel. Head of Melkarth/Eagle and inscription. These coins are referred to in the Bible as "...thirty pieces of silver."

Ext.	Fine	 	.\$45.00
V. F	ine	 • • • •	. 37.50

TRIBUTE PENNY

14-37 A. D. Silver Denarius Laureated head of Tiberius. Reverse: Livia seated. Bible reference: Matthew 22:15-22

Ext.Fine\$	25.00
V. Fine	
Fine	12.50

WIDOW'S MITE

"And Jesus sat over against the treasury and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury and many that were rich cast in much.

"And there came a certain poor widow and she threw in two mites, which makes a farthing. And He called unto Him His disciples and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast more in than all they which has cast into the treasury..." (Mark 12:41-44)

MACCABEAN DYNASTY 103-76 B. C.

V.Gd.	to	Abt. Fine.	\$	4.50
Fine.				7.50

AUGUSTUS CLAUDIUS 37 B.C. - 54 A.D.

V. Good	•		• •	 •	 	•	3.50
Fine				 			6.00
V. Fine						-1	0.00

PONTIUS PILATE, PROCURATOR Augur's wand type - 26-35 A.D.

V. Goo	xl to	Abt.	Fine.		.15.00
Fine.	vet	reada	ble.		.25.00

NERO AND FIRST REVOLT 54 - 70 A. D.

V. Good to Abt. Fine	3.50
Fine	6.00
V. Fine	10.00

NOTE: All of the above Widow's Mites are classified as to date, procurator and in most cases according to Reifenberg.

ANCIENT GOLD COINS

BYZANTIUM 565-578 A.D.

Justinus II (Flavius Anicius), master of the palace until he succeeded his uncle, Justinus I, as emperor of the East, A.D. 565; a weak and imprudent prince whose selfish policy caused war with the Scandinavian people and eventually with the Persians. He died 578 A.D. during the Persian War, a Pelagian heretic.*





GOLD SOLIDUS

Helmeted head of Justinus II facing/ Figure with spear, glove, etc. Due to a fortunate purchase, we are in a position to offer coins from this small hoard at bargain prices.

V. Fine plus, well struck	25.00
V. Fine, slightly off-center	20.00
Fine-V. Fine	17.50

* A follower of Pelagius, a British monk, who denied original sin and maintained the freedom of the will and its power to attain righteousness.



SILVER BEZANT

NAPLES & SICILY, 1309-1343 Silver Bezant of Robert of Anjou. Emperor enthroned/Floriated Cross (Gigliato).

Very Fine..... \$ 6.00

GERMAN PRINCES FOR EXPORT

As the smaller nations of Europe gained or expanded their independence, especially those under Turkish rule like the Lowlands and Scandinavia, they started to cast about for a suitable ruler. Since most of them had no native dynasty worthy of such an honor, they had to import their kings and princes. The large powers were reluctant to send them one of theirs, since it seemed somehow wrong for an English or French prince to rule a country like Bulgaria or Albania. But the Germans had no such qualms. Besides, there was an over supply of eligible princes, some of the most noble and ancient houses in all Europe.

Especially fortunate in this respect were the Saxons who had been split into half a dozen Saxonian dynasties and states for the past two centuries and thus could offer a variety of interesting dynastic combinations. One of the most

GERMAN PRINCES FOR EXPORT (Continued)

sought-after houses was that of Saxe-Koburg which furnished England's Prince Albert and Portugal's King PeterV

Bulgaria had just won its national independence and had selected as its first prince, Alexander Battenberg, an ancestor of Lord Mountbatten of recent memory. But Alexander did not like the climate. In 1887 a successor arrived in the person of Ferdinand of Saxe-Koburg. A prince only at first, he soon elevated himself and his country to full Kingdom. Since the powers acknowledged this, neither the Turks nor any of his neighbors could do much about it. In fact, Roumania did the same thing as did Serbia.

Ferdinand ruled his adopted country with a firm hand, never letting his German origin interfere with the best interests of the Bulgarian nation. But when World War I arrived, he weakened under the combined threats and blandishments of the German Ambassador. He threw in his lot with the central powers, Germany, Austria and Turkey, Since Bulgaria was not smart enough to remain at least neutral in that struggle, the consequences for Ferdinand were dire indeed. His irrate Bulgarians overthrew him in 1918, when the War was lost.

However, Ferdinand managed one final gesture. He persuaded the revolutionaries to preserve the monarchy and place his son Boris on the throne. This they agreed to mainly because there was no one else who could unify the nation. Boris immediately shunned anything remotely German and tried hard to be a good Bulgarian. In the end another German, Hitler, undid all that Boris had carefully built up.

BULGARIA

5 LEVA, FERDINAND, PRINCE

Bearded bust facing left. 1892 First year, V.Fine...\$6.50 1894 V. Fine...........6.00 1894 Fine-V.Fine..... 5.00 (Struck only in these two years)

Ferdinand's silver coins include the scarce 5 Leva piece. On it he calls himself King of the Bulgarians although this ruler is even in modern times sometimes referred to as "Czar of the Bulgarians," a remainder from the 14th century Czars of Bulgaria. The word Leva means lion and the unit was equivalent to the French silver Franc.

-- Hans Holzer